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Title: Need for early introduction of Air Conditioned local trains in Mumbai.

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE (KALYAN): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to raise an important issue. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Railway Minister through you that there has been an inordinate delay in getting the widely discussed AC local train on the track. The Mumbaikars are looking forward for this AC local train since long time as they have to face hazardous difficulty to earn bread and butter for their families because of the over-crowded trains.

The AC local rake has been manufactured by the Integral Coach Factory with the assistance of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited. Since it is an initiative of the Make In India project, the rake had arrived in Mumbai on 5th April, 2016. It was to start on 16th April, 2016, on the anniversary of the first run of the railways. However, for the reason best known to the Railways alone, the occasion was missed and the next date of 30th April, 2016 was declared for the trial. This was also missed and the reason given was the safety clearance. Since then the trials keep getting postponed on the pretext of one or the other reason. Now, it is being told that the technicians are not able to resolve the software issue and hence the trial cannot be conducted.

While Indians are globally known for their software expertise all over the world, one cannot understand why the software issue bogged down Railways to announce new dates every time. The follow up of this delay is the manufacturing of the second AC rake....(*Interruptions*) Madam, I will complete in one minute.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपकी बात आ गयी है, बाकी जो टेक्नीकल सलाह है, वह आप रेलवे को भेज दीजिए।

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE (KALYAN): So, I would like the Railway Minister to interfere in this and start this AC local as soon as possible.

HON. SPEAKER: S/Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Arvind Swanat, Rahul Shewale, Shrirang Appa Barne, Sharad Tripathi, Shrimati Bhavana Pundalikrao Gawali and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde.